

Computer Graphics

Lecture 10 Barycentric Coordinates Ray-Triangle Intersection

Let's talk about bunnies.



If we want bunnies, we still need to implement

function ray_intersect(ray, triangle, tmin, tmax):

Then, we can treat a triangle mesh as simply a list of triangles.

Let's talk about triangles.

A triangle is the intersection of three half-planes

High-level approach:

- 1. Intersect with the plane
- 2. Check if intersection is inside the triangle



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Sound familiar? There's a catch:

We're in **3D** now!



Let's talk about triangles.

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High-level approach:

- 1. Intersect with the plane
- 2. Check if intersection is inside the triangle



To make this easy, we'll introduce the *weirdest coordinate system you've ever seen.* As a bonus, we'll get interpolation of vertex data for free!

Roadmap for today

- Reminder: implicit equation for a plane
- Barycentric coordinates
- Finding barycentric coordinates at a rayplane intersection.

Implicit Planes: Reminder



Implicit Planes: Reminder

How can we tell if an intersection point is inside a particular triangle?



Barycentric Coordinates

A purpose-built coordinate system for talking about points in a specific triangle's plane.

It seems weird at first, but it will give us:

- The intersection point with the plane
- Whether the intersection is inside the triangle
- Interpolation weights for vertex data(!)

Barycentric Interpolation

.60*/+ .30*/+ .10*/=/

.60

.30

Image: Freya Holmér

Barycentric Coordinates

A purpose-built coordinate system for talking about points in a specific triangle's plane.

$$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{a} + \beta(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) + \gamma(\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{a})$$



Properties of Barycentric Coordinates



 Coordinates are proportional to area of subtriangles:

